# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS SHERMAN DIVISION

Cassandra Waddell, : Civil Action No.: 4:21-cv-117

Plaintiff,

v.

Southwest Credit Systems, L.P.,

Defendant.

**COMPLAINT** 

JURY

For this Complaint, the Plaintiff, Cassandra Waddell, by undersigned counsel, states as follows:

### **JURISDICTION**

- 1. This action arises out of the Defendant's repeated violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692, *et seq.* ("FDCPA") in their illegal efforts to collect a consumer debt.
- 2. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b), in that the Defendant transacts business in this District and a substantial portion of the acts giving rise to this action occurred in this District.

### **PARTIES**

- 3. The Plaintiff, Cassandra Waddell ("Plaintiff"), is an adult individual residing in Durham, North Carolina, and is a "consumer" as the term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3).
- 4. Defendant Southwest Credit Systems, L.P. ("Southwest"), is a Texas business entity with an address of 4120 International Parkway #1100, Carrollton, Texas 75007, operating as a collection agency, and is a "debt collector" as the term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).

### **ALLEGATIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL COUNTS**

### A. The Debt

- 5. A financial obligation (the "Debt") was allegedly incurred to an original creditor (the "Creditor").
- 6. The Debt arose from services provided by the Creditor which were primarily for family, personal or household purposes and which meets the definition of a "debt" under 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(5).
- 7. The Debt was purchased, assigned or transferred to Southwest for collection, or Southwest was employed by the Creditor to collect the Debt.
- 8. The Defendant attempted to collect the Debt and, as such, engaged in "communications" as defined in 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(2).

### **B.** Southwest Engages in Harassment and Abusive Tactics

- 9. In or around September 2020, Southwest began calling Plaintiff in an attempt to collect the Debt allegedly owed by Plaintiff's adult daughter, Jasmine Waddle.
- 10. Plaintiff did not co-sign for the Debt and is in no way associated with the Debt or responsible for its repayment.
- 11. During the initial conversation and several times since, Plaintiff advised Southwest that it had the wrong number and requested that all calls to her cease.
- 12. Nevertheless, Southwest continued to call Plaintiff, causing inconvenience and frustration to Plaintiff.

## C. <u>Plaintiff Suffered Actual Damages</u>

13. The Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer actual damages as a result of the Defendant's unlawful conduct.

14. As a direct consequence of the Defendant's acts, practices and conduct, the Plaintiff suffered and continues to suffer from humiliation, anger, anxiety, emotional distress, fear, frustration and embarrassment.

### **COUNT I**

### VIOLATIONS OF THE FDCPA 15 U.S.C. § 1692, et seq.

- 15. The Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this Complaint as though fully stated herein.
- 16. The Defendant's conduct violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692b(1) in that Defendant contacted third parties and failed to identify themselves and further failed to confirm or correct location information.
- 17. The Defendant's conduct violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692b(1) in that Defendant contacted third parties for purposes other than to confirm or correct location information.
- 18. The Defendant's conduct violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692b(3) in that Defendant contacted third parties in regards to the Plaintiff's debt on numerous occasions, without being asked to do so.
- 19. The Defendant's conduct violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692d in that Defendant engaged in behavior the natural consequence of which was to harass, oppress, or abuse the Plaintiff in connection with the collection of a debt.
- 20. The Defendant's conduct violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692d(5) in that Defendant caused a phone to ring repeatedly and engaged the Plaintiff in telephone conversations, with the intent to annoy and harass.
- 21. The Defendant's conduct violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692e in that Defendant used false, deceptive, or misleading representation or means in connection with the collection of a debt.

- 22. The Defendant's conduct violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(10) in that Defendant employed false and deceptive means to collect a debt.
- 23. The Defendant's conduct violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692f in that Defendant used unfair and unconscionable means to collect a debt.
- 24. The foregoing acts and omissions of the Defendant constitute numerous and multiple violations of the FDCPA, including every one of the above-cited provisions.
  - 25. The Plaintiff is entitled to damages as a result of Defendant's violations.

### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

**WHEREFORE**, the Plaintiff prays that judgment be entered against the Defendant:

- 1. Actual damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a)(1) against the Defendant;
- 2. Statutory damages of \$1,000.00 pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a)(2)(A) against the Defendant;
- 3. Costs of litigation and reasonable attorney's fees pursuant to 15 U.S.C.§ 1692k(a)(3) against the Defendant;
- 4. Actual damages from the Defendant for the all damages including emotional distress suffered as a result of the intentional, reckless, and/or negligent FDCPA violations and intentional, reckless, and/or negligent invasions of privacy in an amount to be determined at trial for the Plaintiff; and
- 5. Such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

#### TRIAL BY JURY DEMANDED ON ALL COUNTS

Dated: February 9, 2021

# Respectfully submitted,

By /s/ Jody B. Burton

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